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HISTORY

ing peers to a higher degree as a way of strengthening the King's party in the Upper House without adding to the number of the peerage. Later in his reign William adopted this expedient : in 1694 for instance he made Bedford, Devonshire, Carmarthen, Clare, and Shrewsbury dukes. Halifax further observes that ' by the want hee hath of the Commons and by his not coming to the House of Lords where hee might see, how necessary they are to the support of his crown ; hee doth not think them of much moment/ Halifax pressed him to attend the debates of the House of Lords now and then, as Charles 11 had done. Halifax says William ' agreed to come sometimes to the House to keep up his clayme to it; but since hath shewed such an aversion to it, that hee is no more to be mooved in it/ When Halifax urged him again he said ' with some anger, that hee had no time for it/ ' Later in the reign, however, he followed Halifax's advice, and was occasionally present at debates.² William appreciated better the importance of the Lower House, but had no love for it. He said to Halifax in March 1689 that * the Commons used him like a dog ' and this probably reflects his wrath at their long delays and quarrels over the grant of a revenue.³ Halifax says ' their course usage boyled so upon his stomack, that hee could not hin-

der himselfe from breaking out sometimes,
against them/
In July 1689, after a few months' experience,
he wanted to

¹Ibid. pp. 207, 218, 244.

²Burnet, ii. 44 n. ; Macaulay, IV, 1826 (xv), and V, 2268, 2418 (xix, xx).
In his interesting volume entitled *The House of Lords in the Reign of William III* (1913), A. S. Turberville states that William 'made thirty elevations to the peerage' (p. 7). The number should be twenty-seven, the names of Strafford, Craven, and Willoughby de Broke being wrongly included. Of these new creations six were in favour of the eldest sons of peers, who all succeeded to their fathers' peerages. Promotions were fairly numerous, as Mr. Turberville shows (pp. 10-11).

⁵Cf. Macaulay, IV, 1816 (xv).